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Notes on Queensland

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Souvenir

of Visit of

T.S.S. "ULYSSES"

to

QUEENSLAND

The

LAND OF SUNSHINE



OCTOBER, 1932

Premier of Queensland



BRISBANE 3rd Octr., 1932.

On behalf of the people of Queensland, I have pleasure in extending a welcome to the visitors who have come to our shores on the s.s. "Ulysses" - the first British cruise ship to visit Australian waters - and I confidently expect that their stay with us will be an interesting and happy one.

Queensland offers contrasts not usually found in other parts of the World. Whilst the dweller in the City lives and works under conditions of modern civilisation, the Pioneer in the "Never Never" is still laying the foundations upon which the nation is to develop.

The tropical forest and scrub country on the Eastern Seaboard, the limitless Downs in the West on which graze millions of cattle and sheep, the wonderfully invigorating climate, the glorious beaches, the sunny days, the camaraderie of the people all combine to extend to visitors a "Queensland Welcome".

I trust that our visitors on leaving our shores will carry away many pleasant memories of our people and our State.

W. Forgan Smith

Premier of Queensland.

NOTES ON QUEENSLAND



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AREA & LAND SETTLEMENT.

The area of Queensland, the great North-eastern State of the Commonwealth of Australia, is 670,500 square miles. It is five-and-a-half times greater in area than Great Britain and Ireland combined, and more than three times the size of France. Its greatest length is 1,300 miles from North to South, and its greatest breadth 900 miles. The coast line is 3,000 miles in length, and along it there are many excellent ports.

Of the total area of 429,120,000 acres, less than six per cent has been alienated, or is in course of alienation. Approximately 74% of the whole area is held under lease or license, and 20% is either occupied by the Crown or unoccupied.

POPULATION.

At 31st March 1932 the population of the State numbered 965,934 (equivalent to 1.4 persons to the square mile), of which 512,421 were males and 453,513 females.

Brisbane, with a population of about 334,000, contains 34% of the population of the State, the comparative percentages for other mainland States being : -

Sydney (N.S.W.).	50%
Melbourne (Vict.).	57%
Adelaide (S.Aust.).	55%
Perth (W.Aust.).	50%

C L I M A T E .

Slightly more than one-half of Queensland is within the tropics, consequently the climate is warm in summer, but it is a large State and a good deal of it can be very cold in winter. For instance, on parts of the Darling Downs the thermometer has recorded down to 11 degrees Fahrenheit. Even in tropical districts where the land is high the climate is excellent. At Herberton - a thousand miles North of Brisbane - the minimum temperatures for the three winter months in 1932 were : -

June.	30 degrees.
July.	27 degrees.
August.	34 degrees.

The climate in the Southern parts approximates very closely to that of the Riviera. That it is healthy is amply demonstrated by the fact that the death rate per 1,000 of population is the lowest in the Commonwealth, being only 7.9, which compares with 8.6, the average for Australia, 11.8 for Great Britain and Ireland and 13.2 for Scotland. The winter climate of Queensland is unsurpassed. Unlike many other countries where winter is associated with wet and discomfort, there it is usual to experience a maximum of sunshine in the colder months. Brilliant cloudless days followed by clear frosty nights engender a sense of physical wellbeing, which adds materially to the enjoyment of life.

R A I N F A L L .

The heaviest rainfall recorded in one day in Queensland was $35\frac{3}{4}$ inches at Crohamhurst, about 50 miles from Brisbane, in February 1893, while at Port Douglas (in North Queensland) $31\frac{1}{2}$ inches fell on 1st April 1911. The average yearly rainfall over a number of years ranges from 7 inches in the extreme Central-West to 165 inches on parts of the tropical coast. The average in Brisbane is more than 45 inches, or about twice that of London.

In Queensland the rainfall is heaviest during the summer months, but fair rainfalls are also registered during other seasons.

The wettest part of Australia is on the North-East coast of Queensland, between Port Douglas and Cardwell, where three stations situated on, or adjacent to, the Johnstone and Russell Rivers have an average annual rainfall of between 144 and 165 inches.

G O V E R N M E N T .

There is now only one House of Legislature in Queensland, the Legislative Council (a nominee body) having been abolished in 1922.

Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected triennially on an adult franchise, voting being compulsory. The franchise was extended to women in 1905.

Legislation passed during the 1931 Session provided for a reduction in the number of electorates and members of the Legislative Assembly from 72 to 62, and the present Parliament is constituted accordingly.

Ten members of the Government constitute the Cabinet, which is presided over by a Governor nominated by the Imperial Government.

I M M I G R A T I O N .

To encourage immigration from the United Kingdom the Government assists financially by arranging cheap passages. Persons who have been residing in Queensland more than six months may obtain passages for their relatives or friends by nominating them at the Immigration Offices in Queensland and paying the following fees, plus the current rate of exchange, but for the present Immigration under these conditions is restricted to the re-union of families. Single men who have arrived in Queensland since December 1929 may, however, nominate their fiances :-

	<u>Irish Free State.</u>	
Children under 12 yrs. Free.	£ 8: 5: 0	
Juveniles, 12 yrs. and under 17.	£5:10:0	19: 5: 0
Juveniles, 17 yrs. and under 19.	11: 0:0	22: 0: 0
Married couples accompanied by at least one child under 19 yrs.	11: 0:0	22: 0: 0
Children at rate according to age. (Married couples include widowers or widows & wives nominated by husbands).		<u>Over :-</u>

Irish Free
State.

Others (including children 19 yrs.of age or over).	£16:10:0	£24:15: 0
Domestics.	Free.	16:10: 0

The above fares apply to migrants who at the time of nomination are resident in the United Kingdom, including Northern Ireland.

Nomination and payment to be made according to the locality of the applicant, only through the following Officers : -

Immigration Agent, Brisbane.
Assistant Immigration Agent at
Townsville, and all Clerks of Petty
Sessions.

A full description of the Nominees must appear upon the Application, and all fees must be paid at the time of nomination. The application must be signed, in duplicate, by the Nominator, who must be of adult age. This latter qualification may be waived in the case of newly arrived immigrants nominating their families or dependents.

Persons who have previously resided in Australia are not eligible for any class of assisted passage to Queensland.

Persons who have been nominated must pay for their transport to the Port of

Embarkation, with the exception that those residing more than 40 miles from Port of Embarkation will be granted free travelling facilities.

ADVANCES TO SETTLERS.

The Agricultural Bank may make advances over varying terms, up to 25 years in some instances, on farm lands (freehold or leasehold) used or about to be used for agricultural, dairying, grazing or other approved rural pursuits for the purpose of paying off liabilities due on the land or on any stock or implements, effecting improvements, purchase of stock and implements, &c., affording relief in special cases due to drought, flood, tempest, fire, &c., beyond the control of the applicant and for an amount not exceeding £400 for unspecified purposes in connection with the land.

The general limitation on advances is 16/- in the £1 of the Bank's security value of the holding and the maximum amount that can be granted to any one person is £1,700. To assist beginners advances in special circumstances, not exceeding £500, and within the aforementioned limit of £1,700, may be granted for effecting certain specified improvements. (For some time past, and at present, advances to discharge liabilities to private trading Banks are not being made, excepting in special cases where advances are essential for the further development of the property, and such advances are not available from the present mortgagor).

Special advances may be made for the

purchase of farm horses, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, pigs, dairying and other plant and for the purchase of grass and fodder crop seed.

Advances may also be made to Co-operative Companies and Associations for the purchase of machinery and for the construction of Works incidental to primary production.

During the financial year 1931-1932 the advances amounted to £285,422, making the total amount advanced since the inception of the Bank (1902) £6,289,367. The principal owing at 30th June 1932 was £2,375,839.

COST OF LIVING.

The following average predominant retail prices of principal foodstuffs in Brisbane in August 1932 will give some idea of the cost of living in Queensland:-

Bread.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per 2-lb. loaf.
Flour.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.
Tea.	1/11 per lb.
Sugar.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.
Rice.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.
Jam.	7d per lb.
Oatmeal.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb.
Onions.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.
Milk.	6d per qt.
Butter.	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb.
Cheese.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.
Eggs.	1/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ per doz.
Bacon.	11d per lb.
Beef.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d to 9d pr.lb.) accord-
Mutton.	3d to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d pr.lb.) ing to cut.

Fruit and vegetables of all descriptions
are plentiful and cheap.

W A G E S .

The average nominal weekly wage paid in Queensland at 31st March, 1932 to adult males was £4: 8:11 per week.

The wages and conditions of labour in almost every calling are fixed by a Board of Trade & Arbitration, which also adjudicates upon industrial disputes.

H O M E S .

The majority of Queenslanders own their own houses. In Brisbane and suburbs only 39% of the private dwellings are occupied by tenants, as against 43% in Perth, 46% in Adelaide, 54% in Melbourne, 55% in Hobart and 59% in Sydney. The number of rooms per dwelling is greater in Brisbane than in any other Capital, while the number of inmates per room is lowest. The average weekly rental is also lower than in any other capital city in Australia, being 14/3d per week for a four or five room house.

Personal ownership of dwellings is productive of a higher and more stable standard of citizenship, and is conducive to the maintenance of better homes. The Government encourages this by giving generous assistance to workers to erect their own homes.

Under "The Workers' Homes Acts 1919 to 1930" a worker whose net income for taxation purposes does not exceed £260 per annum (after deductions allowed by the State Income Tax Act, i.e. £72 for wife, £60 for each child under 16 years and life insurance premiums) may enjoy the provisions of the Act. This means that a man earning £512 per annum who has not a life insurance policy and who has a wife and three children under 16 years of age would be able to acquire a home under the Act.

The applicant under this Act is not required to own any land, and the deposit is only 5% of the capital cost of the home. The homes are erected on land held on perpetual leasehold tenure or on freeholding lease tenure, the annual rental of the land held as perpetual lease being £3 per cent of its capital value. Limit of cost of home is usually £600. Assuming house to cost £500, the deposit would be 5%, or £25, leaving a balance of £475 to be redeemed in 25 years by a monthly payment of £3:19:2, which includes a life insurance premium on a policy to cover the unexpired purchase money owing from time to time (compulsory, unless applicant is unable to pass the medical examination or if payment of premium would be a hardship), interest at 5% per annum charged on monthly balance, fire insurance, repainting, general expenses and rent of land. This is equal to a weekly payment of 18/3d. Total applications received to 30th June 1932 were 2,624, the value of the homes amounting to £1,453,697.

The owners of workers' homes now have the right by Act of Parliament to obtain a modification of the terms of their leases, which will enable them to acquire the freehold of their lands. The purchase price is the capital value of the perpetual lease, which is added to the unpaid purchase money on the home, and is paid as part of the monthly rent over the balance of the term of contract of sale for the purchase of the house.

Workers' Dwellings.

Advances have for a number of years been made to finance erection of workers' dwellings on freehold or perpetual leasehold land. Applicants must not be in receipt of more than £416 per annum, and must not own any other dwelling. Loans up to four-fifths of the value of land and dwelling may be made. The applicant must be the registered proprietor of the land. The loans are repayable over 20 years and with 5% interest on monthly balances. Advances to June 1932 totalled £6,749,711, representing 16,581 houses.

SHEEP AND WOOL.

Though Queensland is distinguished by the variety of its resources, its principal industry is the production of wool. About one-half the vast area of the State is suitable for sheep grazing and the comparatively dry climate of the interior ensures a remarkable immunity from diseases to which Merino sheep in most climates are susceptible.

The State possesses a great asset in its immense stretches of open rolling downs of a total area exceeding that of France, on which in normal times sheep thrive and fatten on the native grasses and foliage, and which present no initial obstacle to development beyond the need of raising or storing water in cases where the natural surface supply is insufficient. These magnificent pasture lands are admirably adapted to the growth of high quality wool and some of the best Merino wool in the World is produced in Queensland.

The disadvantage of an uncertain rainfall in the Western Districts is mitigated by the splendid provision made by Nature for an artesian water supply. Other characteristics of great value are the wonderful recuperative power of the pastures after a dry period and the drought-resisting properties of the famed Mitchell grass and other Western

vegetation.

The growing world-wide demand for better class wool, coupled with the comparatively restricted area of the earth's surface upon which it can be produced, ensures to Queensland pastoralists an advantageous market position. A continual improvement is being effected in the quality of the wool grown and high prices are paid for stud sheep in order to attain this end. As an illustration of what can be accomplished by an improvement in breeding, the case of Isis Downs may be mentioned. In 1906 the average fleece from the large flock on the property was 6.9 lbs ; in 1911 it had increased to 8.6 lbs. and in 1925 it had reached the high average of 9.6 lbs. Thus in 20 years the average fleece on the property was increased by nearly three lbs., or more than 39%. This result was achieved through the attention given by the lessees to the stud established by them on the property and which they used mainly for the purpose of steadily building up their flock.

A recent development in this connection has been the granting by the Government of concessions to lessees desirous of establishing or extending stud sheep farms within the State so that we may be better able to supply from local sources the constant need that exists for fresh supplies of young stud rams.

The production of wool for 1930-1931

was 182,061,407 lbs, valued at approximately £7,479,689, most of which was exported overseas.

There are upwards of 22,500,000 sheep in Queensland, about 98% of which are Merinos.

It is estimated that the capital invested in the wool industry in Queensland is not less than £50,000,000.

The export trade in mutton is small. For the year 1931, 63.5% of sheep and lambs slaughtered was consumed locally. The consumption of mutton and lamb in Australia averages $78\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per head per annum, compared with Great Britain 26, Canada 6 and United States of America $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

C A T T L E .

Out of 11,720,916 cattle in Australia, at 1st January 1931 Queensland depastured 5,463,724, or about 40%. The finest specimens of beef-producing cattle raised in Australia are those from North-west Queensland.

Australians eat about 105 lbs. of beef per head per annum, compared with a consumption of 71 lbs. in Great Britain.

Queensland produces 90% of the beef exported from Australia. The State's exports for the years 1928-1929 to 1931-1932 (inclusive) are shewn below : -

Year.	Overseas exports.	
	Lbs.	£.
1928-1929.	170,962,900	2,605,909
1929-1930.	139,642,400	2,306,340
1930-1931.	141,511,500	2,064,725
1931-1932.	139,252,400	1,725,247

AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION.

Queensland has in operation a comprehensive system of agricultural organisation under statutory authority. Under appropriate legislation, Commodity Boards, on which the Government is directly represented, have been established. These Boards control the marketing of farm products of the major and some of the minor primary industries, with the exception of beef and wool, which do not come within the purview of the legislation referred to. On these Boards the producers are directly represented.

The Government recognises that in the development of agriculture lies the solution of one of our greatest problems, the question of more effectively occupying our large and sparsely populated areas with settlers of the right type. It is also recognised that by co-operation alone can the difficulties arising from market fluctuations be minimised and intermediate costs between producer and consumer reduced to reasonable margins.

The Organisation provides for the establishment of

(a). Local Producers' Associations in country centres, such to consist of not fewer than 15 primary producers.

(b). Commodity Boards elected by the primary producers engaged in the

production of the several commodities.

(c). Council of Agriculture in the metropolis, consisting of representatives of the Commodity Boards.

(d). A Director of Marketing, appointed by the Government, who represents the Government on each Commodity Board. The Government also has representation on the Council of Agriculture.

Commodity Boards, as follows, have been constituted : -

Cheese Board, Butter Board, Egg Board, Cotton Board, Barley Board, Cane Growers' Council, Canary Seed Board, Wheat Board, Broom Millet Board, Arrowroot Board, Atherton Tableland Maize Board, Peanut Board, Honey Board and the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing.

It is expected that other Commodity Boards, to embrace additional primary products of the State, will later be established.

The functions of the Producers' Association cover almost every phase of agrarian life. It investigates rural problems, advises agriculturalists regarding matters which require scientific knowledge and training, organises action for the control of diseases and pests, assists in search of further uses and additional markets for the disposal of

produce, improves means of distribution and transport, and publishes a weekly journal, which is distributed amongst the members of the local Associations.

The support afforded the scheme is illustrated by the fact that 540 Local Producers' Associations are in existence at the present time, with a membership of approximately 20,000 farmers.

Local Producers' Associations do not take the place of the many Co-operative Associations which are engaged in the manufacture and treatment of primary products.

DAWSON VALLEY & INKERMAN IRRIGATION AREAS.

The Theodore section of the Dawson Valley Irrigation Area was thrown open for settlement in 1927. The original area was 32,385 acres, of which 2,500 are irrigated and the balance used for dairying, &c. under ordinary conditions. The whole of the irrigation farms and all but five of the non-irrigable blocks have been selected.

In 1930 the Plainby subdivision, practically a continuation of the Theodore Settlement, was opened for selection. It comprises 22,000 acres (in blocks), 11 of them having river frontage, and all were taken up for dairying and mixed farming. It is proposed as other leases in the vicinity of Theodore expire to cut them up into similar areas.

Cotton is the main crop and a good return is assured from it on the irrigable blocks. Potatoes, onions, lucerne and other fodder crops are successfully grown under irrigation, but wheat, cotton and fodder crops grown in the dry areas are dependent on the seasons. It is surprising how, in times of drought, dairy stock keep their condition on the dried up grasses.

The Inkerman area is situated at Home Hill, North Queensland. There are

now 198 farms aggregating 6,000 acres under irrigation. The rates for both irrigation and town electric supply return a revenue of £44,500 per annum. The value of irrigation for cane production can be judged by the fact that the average for last season on this area was 26.4 tons to the acre, as against the average of 16.5 tons for the State.

D A I R Y I N G .

There were approximately 775,300 dairy cows in Queensland at 31st December 1931. Rapid development in this industry has taken place since the year 1900. Butter and cheese manufactured in that year amounted to 8,680,389 and 1,984,705 lbs. respectively. In 1931 the manufacture was - Butter 100,565,158 lbs (a record production) and cheese 12,261,457 lbs, the value of butter and cheese being £6,217,000 and £325,800 respectively.

Of the total production of cheese in Australia, Queensland was responsible for over 41%. In 1931 there were 24,016 farmers supplying 117 butter and cheese factories operating in the State.

Some of our modern butter factories are capable of turning out 100 tons of butter weekly, and are considered to be equal to any factories in the World. Most of them have been remodelled within recent years, and have the most up-to-date equipment installed.

It is interesting to note that 99.7% of the butter manufactured in Queensland is produced under Co-operative control, a record that cannot be excelled even by Denmark.

Queensland exports oversea greater quantities of butter and cheese each year than any of the other States of the Commonwealth.

S U G A R .

Nearly 95% of the sugarcane grown in Australia is raised in Queensland, where approximately 296,000 acres of the coastal lands are devoted to this crop. The yield of cane in 1931 was 4,034,300 tons, from which 581,276 tons of sugar were extracted, this being a record production.

In the early stages of the industry the cultivation and cutting of the cane was carried out by black labor imported from the islands of the Pacific. For many years, however, it has been clearly demonstrated that sugar can be successfully grown by white labor.

The sugar industry is conducted on highly scientific lines and the cultural methods are such that Queensland can boast of being capable of producing a higher yield of commercial sugar from a given tonnage of cane than any other country in the World. 6.84 tons of cane will produce one ton of commercial sugar.

W H E A T .

A considerable area of the Southern part of the State is admirably adapted for wheat growing. For many years the Darling Downs, a magnificent stretch of black soil country at an elevation of about 1,500 feet, was deemed to be the only area really suited to wheat, but experience shows that the lighter soils further West also produce excellent grain.

The yield per acre in Queensland over a period of 10 years 1920-1930 averaged 15.44 bushels, compared with 12.43 bushels in New South Wales, 13.29 in Victoria, 10.72 in South Australia and 10.89 in Western Australia.

In 1931 there were 248,783 acres under crop which produced 3,863,894 bushels. The price realised by the farmer was approximately 3:10d per bushel.

M A I Z E .

Queensland produces a greater quantity of maize than any other State in the Commonwealth. In 1931, 147,669 acres under this crop yielded 3,780,597 bushels, an average of 25.26 bushels per acre. The crop was valued at £518,257.

Large quantities of maize were also sown broadcast and used as green fodder for dairy cattle.

C O T T O N .

The development of the cotton growing industry in Queensland has now reached the stage of having most promising possibilities. During several periods since the first attempt was made to establish cotton growing in this State it has been demonstrated that Queensland is eminently suitable for growing this crop. Each time, however, the establishment of the industry has failed through the lack of an Australian market. Under the present scheme of the Federal Government, very substantial assistance to overcome this difficulty is provided in the way of bounties on yarn and protective tariffs, for the establishment of the cotton spinning and manufacturing industries in this country. With the development of the market for cotton lint, which these industries will supply, it is believed that the cotton growing industry will expand to very substantial proportions within a few years.

Through the efforts of the State Government the growers now have their own ginneries and oil mills purchased from the British Australian Cotton Association Limited. Marked savings in ginning costs have been effected through the growers owning their own plants. Modern cleaning apparatus has been installed, giving greater efficiency in the ginning operations and allowing cotton to be picked with more trash in it. This will

materially assist in reducing the cost of picking.

Modern machinery considerably reducing cost of production, improving standard of cultivation and practically eliminating hand labour, has the tendency to increase the acreage under crop.

There is ample suitable land available for the growing of cotton, and as this crop is less susceptible to drought than most summer crops its production should now be a profitable enterprise for a large number of farmers, particularly in view of the savings made possible in freights and oversea charges by reason of having an Australian market.

The production of seed cotton grew from 24,264 lbs. in 1916 to 19,537,274 lbs. in 1925, this being the peak.

The production for the years ended 1930 and 1931 were 17,022,897 lbs. and 15,244,644 lbs. respectively. The decreased yield during the latter year was due to it having been a comparatively dry period.

TOBACCO.

Tobacco has been grown in Queensland for many years, but the industry has recently received considerable impetus by the opening up of additional areas for this purpose in various parts of the State, due largely to the increased tariff protection which has now been afforded and experiments which have been made during the last six years.

Tobacco is now being grown in North Queensland at such places as Mareeba and Dimbulah (in the Cairns District), Hervey's Range, Ayr and Bowen (Townsville District) and Sarina (in the Mackay District). It is also being cultivated at certain places in Central and Southern Queensland. Texas (in South Queensland) has for many years been a tobacco growing district.

The area devoted to tobacco growing during 1931 was 1,289 acres, and is increasing rapidly.

GREEN FORAGE AND ARTIFICIAL PASTURES.

The area devoted to various green crops, such as oats, barley, rye, sorghum, maize, lucerne, &c., in Queensland is greater than in any other State in the Commonwealth, except New South Wales.

F R U I T .

Queensland is the possessor of a wide variety of climatic conditions, from the heat of the Northern Districts where tropical fruits luxuriate to the comparative mildness of the Darling Downs and mountainous districts further South where apples, pears and stone fruits of all descriptions thrive to perfection.

The juicy tropical fruits are in great demand in the Southern Capitals, and fruit trains run regularly in the season from North of Brisbane to Sydney and Melbourne. The three States co-operate to facilitate the transit of this perishable commodity, with the result that it arrives at its destination in excellent condition and is greatly sought after by the people of the South. Train loads of bananas, tomatoes, cucumbers, &c. are also sent from Bowen (in North Queensland) to the Southern States.

Then again, special trains carrying apples, peaches, plums and other fruit from what is known as the "Granite Belt", near the Southern border, are run to Brisbane, a distance of more than 200 miles, throughout the season, and the fruit is distributed from Brisbane to many other centres.

During the height of the pineapple season the market occasionally becomes overstocked, and considerable relief is

afforded by the distribution of fruit direct from the grower to consumer in case or carton lots at a reasonable price, specially low railage rates materially assisting the scheme. The growers, through their Organisation, have also been able to arrange for the canning of an appreciable quantity of pines for both local and export trade. It is generally conceded by those with a knowledge of this business that the Queensland product is equal or superior to the Hawaiian product.

The value of preserved pineapples exported for the year ended June 1931 (principally to Canada and the United Kingdom) was a little more than £20,000.

HOME PROJECT CLUBS.

The Home Project Club Scheme in operation in the State Schools in the rural districts of Queensland aims at making use of the environment interests of the children for their educational advancement. It is a scheme in which the Public Instruction and Agriculture & Stock Departments co-operate to interest the children, and through them, their parents, in the proper development of the various projects undertaken.

Teachers have been quick to realize not only the educational values, but also the possibilities of the scheme from an economic viewpoint. The growth of the movement is illustrated by the fact that in 1927 there were 74 Clubs in operation, with a membership of 546, whilst last year the numbers had increased to 399 Clubs, with a membership of over 3,000.

Queensland, with its vast area and diverse climatic conditions, offers a large choice of projects. Those now in operation include, Pig, Calf, Poultry, Bee, Crop growing, Vegetable growing, Experimenting with Winter Grasses, Clovers, Summer Fodders, Top Dressing of Pastures, Forestry, &c.

The teachers act as the Club leaders and under their direction certain children voluntarily undertake to carry out certain activities ; for example, the

rearing of a Pig to bacon standard. The children assume the responsibility of managership, keep records, attend Club meetings, and, on completion of the project, present written reports thereon.

The valuing of Club members' work generally takes place on what is known as Club Day, when parents and residents are invited to attend at the schools. The members on that day exhibit their record books, written reports and the animals or crops on which they have been working.

The Director of Education has commented as follows upon Club work : -

" Club work, properly conducted,
" affords a valuable training for
" citizenship. The practical side
" of the work is supplemented by
" development in initiative, in
" responsibility and in those at-
" tributes that fit a person to
" take a prominent part in the life
" of the community. It is fast be-
" coming a feature in all good
" schools."

M I N I N G .

Queensland's interesting history is indissolubly bound up with mining. Although the gold output is now less than formerly recent discoveries lead to the belief that a recrudescence of auriferous mining activity on an extensive scale may be expected in the near future. In a comparatively brief period of seventy years Queensland has produced over £150,000,000 worth of materials. As a study of the State's mineral history discloses that the want of capital and population have been instrumental in keeping the great bulk of the mineral wealth beneath the ground, it is obvious that Queensland presents a remarkable field for mining investments. At the present time gold, silver, copper, tin, tungsten, molybdenum, bismuth, manganese, lead, antimony, zinc, arsenic, platinum, besides coal, graphite, gems, mercury, nickel and cobalt are being won. Could more attractive mineral fare be offered ?

The outstanding mining field in Queensland at present is the Mount Isa silver-lead field, situated in the far North-West. Here the deposits are rich and extensive and mining operations on a large scale are in progress. A railway, 53 miles long, has been built from the main North-Western line to the field. Carbonate sulphide ores totalling over 21,000,000 tons, without disclosing the depth limit to the ore-bearing formation,

have already been proved, and this tonnage is likely to be greatly increased as exploration work progresses.

Mount Isa commenced production in May 1931. The bullion produced up to and including August 1932 (15 months) contained 45,823 tons of lead and 2,400,999 ounces of silver valued at £572,107 and £181,535 respectively.

Extensive areas of the State known to be metalliferous are now being investigated by syndicates representing overseas capital, prepared to spend from £5,000 to £10,000 annually in prospecting alone. These areas comprise concessions in the Chillagoe, Palmer, Etheridge and Woolgar districts, all in North Queensland. Active exploration of gold bearing reefs has also been undertaken at Mt. Coolon and Cracow. At the former place the Company is now on the eve of production. Gold finds in the vicinity of Charters Towers and North Arm are also attracting attention. Upwards of 2,000 men are prospecting for gold individually and in parties. Charters Towers, the vicinity of Rockhampton, Mt. Coolon, Gympie, Imbil, Glastonbury, Kilkivan, Cracow and Clermont are amongst the fields that are attracting the attention of the prospectors. There is every reason for optimism in regard to the future of mining in Queensland.

T I M B E R .

During the year 1930-31 approximately 136,000,000 superficial feet of log timber was taken from the forests of Queensland, including hoop, bunya, kauri and cypress pine, various hardwoods and a rich miscellany of cabinet-woods.

The estimated wooded area of the State is about 17,440,000 acres, or one-third the forest area of Australia. Large tracts of hardwood forest have been destroyed by ring-barking to improve the growth of grass, while many valuable cabinet-wood scrubs have been cleared for settlement, the timber in some cases being burned owing to the difficulty of marketing at the time. Reafforestation had been neglected until the present century, but nurseries are now established in fourteen centres in North and South Queensland.

There are nearly 2,000,000 acres of State forests, 3,379,000 acres of timber reserves and 236,700 acres of National parks.

In George Street, Brisbane, the Forestry Department has a Show Room in which are displayed many of the timbers of the State.

C O A L .

Nature has been generous to Queensland in its wide distribution of those black diamonds which are so essential to industry. Coal is found at many places throughout the State, principally East of the Dividing Range, the most important fields being at Ipswich, Oakey, Tannymorel, Blair Athol and Mount Mulligan, while large deposits of anthracite coal exist in the valley of the Dawson. At Blair Athol the seam of coal is 93 feet thick in places, and is stated to be probably the thickest seam of coal in the World. At the present time the industry is suffering from an insufficiency of orders, and for the year 1931 only 841,308 tons, valued at £699,926 were mined. Coal (except in the form of gas) is very little used for domestic heating or fuel purposes in Queensland.

ARTESIAN WATER.

The "Great Artesian Basin" of Australia, said to be the largest yet discovered, measures approximately 600,000 square miles, of which 376,000 square miles are in Queensland, taking in practically all that part of the State lying to the West of the Great Dividing Range, or considerably more than half the total area of the State. Its value to the pastoral industry is immeasurable. There are 4,770 artesian bores, of which 1,424 are "flowing" bores estimated to yield 278,898,000 gallons per day. The deepest bore is 6,000 feet and the shallowest flowing bore 10 ft. Some of the wells yield as much as 1,800,000 gallons daily. The surface temperature of the water ranges from 78 to 212 degrees Fahrenheit. The total depth bored is approximately 4,171,438 feet, equivalent to 790 miles.

RAILWAYS - GAUGE & DEVELOPMENT.

Queensland Railways are built to the 3'6" gauge, with the exception of a few miles of 2' gauge line taken over some years ago in the Innisfail District (North Queensland) from one of the sugar companies, and 69 miles of 4'8½" gauge between Brisbane and Richmond Gap, on the Southern Border, the latter being the Queensland section of the Uniform Gauge Railway between Brisbane and Sydney. The mileage opened for traffic is 6,558 miles.

The large area of Queensland (670,500 square miles) made it obvious to early administrators that access to the seaboard from the interior must not be confined to the one port only, as is the case in most of the Southern States. Consequently the Government adopted the principle of pushing railways into the interior from several different points on the coast line, principally Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns. The result of this is that the products of inland parts, chiefly wool and cattle, are taken by the nearest route to the sea.

This policy of decentralisation, of course, created certain disadvantages to railway operation, inasmuch as the various systems were isolated from each other and no interchange of rolling stock could be effected without considerable expense and delay. More than 20 years ago the Southern and Central

Systems were linked up by a coastal connection between Brisbane and Rockhampton, and November 1923 marked an important epoch in Queensland Railway development, when connection was established between Rockhampton and Townsville. The last remaining gap in the Great North Coast System (between Townsville and Cairns) was bridged in December 1924. The coastal line connecting Brisbane and Cairns is 1,043 miles in length.

It is now possible for a passenger to journey by rail without a break (other than transshipment at certain border stations due to lack of uniformity in gauge in the different States) from Mount Isa (in North-West Queensland) to Paroo (in Western Australia), almost 5,500 miles. This is about equal to the direct distance from London to Peking, or from New York to San Francisco and back.

Queensland possesses a greater mileage of railway per head of population than any other country in the World, with the sole exception of Western Australia. It has a considerably greater mileage than any other State in the Commonwealth.

CO-ORDINATION OF ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT.

In common with other countries, the Railways in Queensland, which have contributed largely to the development of the State, are suffering a loss of business by the intrusion of the road motor into the field of transit. The advantages of door-to-door delivery, with lessened risk of damage by handling and loss through pilferage are undoubted, while the passenger motor 'bus stops anywhere and requires no rails or stations. The economic soundness of building, at the public expense, first-class roads parallel to State Railways is questionable, particularly in view of the comparatively light taxation imposed upon motor vehicles. Clearly, however, the development and improvement of roads which act as feeders to the railways is highly desirable.

"The State Transport Act of 1932" recently passed by Parliament provides for the creation of a State Transport Board comprising the Commissioners for Railways, of Main Roads and of Police. The Board is given power to impose conditions under which registration of trucks, motor omnibuses or service cars will be effected or to refuse to allow them to be registered. Fares and routes may also be fixed. The Act uses the existing organisations created under "The Heavy Vehicles Acts", "The Traffic Acts" and "The Inspection of Machinery Acts" and co-ordinates activities thereunder under the control of the

Board. "The Heavy Vehicles Acts" make it necessary for any vehicle used for the carriage of passengers or goods upon Traffic routes in uneconomic competition with State Railway services to be registered as a Heavy Vehicle subject to the powers of the Board abovementioned.

The Board is empowered to allow a general exemption to vehicles carrying not further than the economic limit for such vehicle and to grant such further exemptions as it considers are necessary.

Inspection of all vehicles is provided for under the Board's direction.

The Board may use the services of experts in any investigation it undertakes.

MAIN ROADS.

The development of the road motor has not only necessitated a complete re-adjustment of views on transport, but on road construction also as a result of the rapid disintegration of road surfaces by heavy vehicles running at high speed. The unco-ordinated efforts of numerous local authorities in the past produced irregular and unsatisfactory results in highway construction and maintenance. The establishment of a Main Roads Board about 12 years ago (more recently constituted a sole commission) has brought about a definite and progressive road building policy so essential to a large State in its early stages of development. From the inception of the Board to June 1932, 1,991 miles of new roadway and approximately six miles of roadway bridges have been constructed. The Commission's funds are obtained by Parliamentary loan appropriation, contributions from local authorities, motor vehicle registration fees, grants from Commonwealth Government &c.

At 30th June 1932, 88,960 motor vehicles (including bicycles) were registered in Queensland.

E D U C A T I O N .

The educational system in Queensland is excellent and is such that every child within the State, no matter how remotely situated, can receive tuition. In far Western Districts where the population is small and widely scattered itinerant teachers convey the light of learning to the rising generation, while an excellent system of instruction by correspondence is arranged, a large number of teachers being employed in the preparation and correction of papers for students.

Large numbers of scholarships are granted by the Government each year, and secondary education is thus within reach of all. University scholarships are also granted yearly. Technical and University training are available at little cost, the administrators realising that "Knowledge is Power".

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

Queensland is a country of great distances and the problem of bringing to the children in sparsely settled areas the educational advantages enjoyed by those residing in the towns and cities has been a difficult one. Itinerant teachers have performed much valuable work by imparting elementary education to the younger children, but there has been a growing realisation in recent years that something more is needed by the "bush" child who is nearing adolescence.

The problem has been solved in a unique fashion by the "Travelling School", advantage having been taken of Queensland's extensive railway system to give a modern technical training to the older children living in remote places by equipping up-to-date "schools on wheels". These carriages ingeniously fitted up and in charge of qualified instructors, take the form of Domestic Science Cars for girls and Manual Training Cars for boys.

The cars are moved from place to place for periods covering four to six weeks, and the children from the surrounding districts attend for full-time vocational training, covering what is normally a year's work in classes conducted at Technical Colleges. The girls are taught cookery, needlework and simple rules of health and sanitation, and the boys either woodwork, sheetmetal work or leather work.

The innovation has been a marked success, and many hundreds of adults, as well as school pupils, have attended classes of instruction.

STATE INSURANCE.

In the year 1916 the Government inaugurated a State Insurance Office, and all classes of insurance are undertaken. The State Office has a monopoly of Workers Compensation insurance, which is compulsory. Substantial reductions in all fire insurance rates have followed the establishment of this Office, as the private companies were compelled to lower their rates to those quoted by the State Commissioner.

The State Office life insurance policies at 31st December 1931 totalled £8,830,000, and the funds amounted to £2,353,000.

THE PUBLIC CURATOR.

One of the most successful Governmental activities is the Office of the Public Curator, from a financial point of view, and also from the standpoint of the public generally. His functions cover a wide range of service. For instance, he prepares Wills and holds them in safe custody free of charge, obtains probate or letters of administration at a minimum of expense, acts as executor and trustee, either alone or in conjunction with advisory trustees, acts as administrator of intestate estates, finances estates under his management to avoid realisation at a disadvantage, grants loans on freehold at lowest current rates, acts as agent for the investment of money, acts as auctioneer, estate agent and conveyancer, and performs many other functions. The charges in all cases are moderate, but notwithstanding that fact the Office returned a clear profit of £2,510 for the year 1931-1932. The sense of security, engendered by the fact that the Office is under the Government, renders it a popular institution.

TRADE & COMMERCE.

Queensland's imports from overseas in 1932 were valued at £3,746,018, while her overseas exports were worth £16,105,752. Forty two per cent of her imports came from the United Kingdom, while about 60% of her exports go there. The imports were abnormally low due to adverse exchange. Five years ago they were valued at more than £13,000,000. The principal imports are textiles and drapery, drugs, earthenware, hardware and machinery, papers and stationery, jewellery and fancy goods, &c., kerosene and petrol &c. Exports chiefly minerals, meat, wool, tallow, butter and cheese, livestock, &c.

S H I P P I N G .

The total tonnage of shipping entered at Queensland ports during the year ended June 1931 was 6,645,714, of which 3,570,102 tons were dealt with at Brisbane.

B A N K I N G .

The average amount to the credit of each depositor in Savings Banks in Queensland is £43:15:0, considerably more than in any other State. There are 510,831 depositors, the amount to their credit totalling £22,354,325. The rate of interest allowed is $2\frac{3}{4}\%$ up to £500, $2\frac{1}{4}\%$ £501 to £1,000 and 2% over £1,000.

The assets of cheque paying banks in Queensland grew from £23,547,680 in 1912 to £48,246,393 at 30th June 1932, while liabilities rose from £21,715,242 to £45,628,522.

MANUFACTURES.

There are 2,104 factories in Queensland employing 40,474 hands, of which 6,911 are females. The proportion of male employees is greater in Queensland than in any other State of the Commonwealth. Only about 4% of the employees are under 16 years of age.

The articles manufactured cover a wide range, but the majority of factories are devoted to foodstuffs, woodworking, metal working and machinery, textiles, &c.

The value of the raw materials used in 1930-1931 was £24,861,350, and the total value of the output was £40,422,858, or £999 for each employee. The value of plant and machinery employed is £16,100,004.

The value added by process of manufacture, i.e., the value of output, less materials used, fuel, light and power, repairs, &c., was £13,528,662 for 1930-1931, an average of £334 per employee.

POWER ALCOHOL.

A distillery costing £120,000 has been established at Sarina, in the Mackay sugar growing area, for the distillation of alcohol from waste molasses produced by the sugar mills. This alcohol is added to commercial benzine and the mixture is largely used in Queensland. The Railway Department's large fleet of rail motors use this fuel almost exclusively.

About £7,500,000 worth of petrol is at present imported into Australia annually from foreign countries, so that there should be a large market for an efficient alcohol produced at a satisfactory price.

CHILD WELFARE.

Baby Clinics have been established by the Government at many places, and here mothers can obtain free advice and instructions as to the feeding and care of infants, as well as free treatment for minor infantile ailments. The attendances at Clinics for the year ended June 1932 were 129,023.

In addition, a Baby Clinic and Child Welfare Car, with up-to-date accommodation for two Nurses, is in use on the Queensland Railways. Child welfare lectures and practical demonstrations, advice in all stages of infant life, as well as health talks to school children, are given at country centres, thus affording country mothers the same advantages as those resident in our cities.

For the year ended 30th June 1932, 149 places were visited, 2,677 infants and mothers attending for advice. In addition 129 lectures to mothers and 211 Health talks to school children were delivered by the personnel accompanying the car.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Notwithstanding that more than half of Queensland is within the tropics, the rate of infantile mortality, i.e., number of deaths under one year for each 1,000 births registered, is almost the lowest in the World, being 36 per 1,000 against 43 in New South Wales, 44 in Victoria, 60 in England and Wales and 83 in Scotland.

QUEENSLAND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT BRIGADE.

This is a State-wide organisation supported by voluntary subscriptions, with a Government subsidy. Each Ambulance centre is self-governing and is represented on the Executive Committee in Brisbane by one representative. There are 71 centres each controlling their own affairs and collecting their own funds, in addition to sub-centres under the control of the self-governing centres, as well as a large number of honorary centres where no paid officer is employed. The paid staff numbers 191.

There are 164 road motor cars and 11 rail motors in use.

During the year ended 30th June 1932 the Government subsidy amounted to £10,000. For the year ended June 1931 the Brigades throughout the State attended to 147,498 cases and travelled about 900,000 miles.

GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU.

In Queensland the Government Tourist Bureau is a part of the State Railways organisation. Its functions include the advertising of Queensland's tourist attractions, both within and without her borders, and the organisation and co-ordination of services to enable tourists to visit Queensland resorts under the best conditions.

Although a part of the railway organisation, the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau is not restricted to the advertising and booking of railway transport exclusively, but arranges extensive tours, including accommodation and all forms of transport.

Queensland holds a unique position as the only Australian State possessing a tropical appeal and a perfect winter climate. It is not surprising, therefore, that during the Winter season (extending from May to September) there is a large influx of tourists from the colder Southern States. The majority of these travel as far North as Cairns.

BARRIER REEF.

Unique amongst the attractions which Queensland has to offer tourists is the greatest coral formation in the world - the Great Barrier Reef, which extends for more than 1,000 miles along the Queensland coast. It is a bewildering maze of coral islands, cays and reefs, making a holiday playground of extraordinary fascination which is rapidly attracting world-wide interest.

In addition to corals of exquisite shape and colour a variety of marine life abounds. Brilliantly coloured fish, gorgeous crabs, bech-de-mer, starfish, anemones, sea-urchins and giant clams are to be seen. Countless thousands of sea birds honeycomb the ground or cover every available tree branch with their nests. The exciting sport of turtle riding may be enjoyed during certain months of the year, when large numbers of turtles deposit their eggs in the warm dry sand.

The Barrier Reef is also an angler's paradise, and groper, kingfish, mackerel, red emperor, rainbow trout, coral cod and sweetlip are a few of the many species to be found in these waters.

BROADCASTING.

Wireless in Australia is controlled by the Commonwealth Government and is divided into two grades, viz : - "A" and "B" Class stations.

The "A" Class stations are administered by the Australian Broadcasting Commission appointed by the Commonwealth Government, the technical services being provided by the Postmaster General's staff.

The "B" Class stations are privately owned and rely upon advertising for their revenue.

The "A" Class stations do not handle any advertising and are financed by means of a license fee of 24/- per annum payable by all persons owing wireless receiving sets.

Queensland is well provided for in this class of entertainment, Brisbane alone possessing four stations, one "A" Class with wave length of 395 metres and three "B" Class with wave lengths of 217, 233 and 262 metres respectively. At Rockhampton there is an "A" Class relay station (329 metres) which repeats Brisbane "A" Class programmes and provides limited local programmes, whilst a number of our important cities are equipped with "B" Class stations.

Excellent reception has been reported from all parts of Australia and New Zealand, as well as from Pacific Islands, America and Canada.

The entertainments provided are varied. With the "A" Class station particular attention is given to the requirements of the farmers. Special up-to-the-minute market reports and prices, market movements and weather reports are broadcast twice daily, whilst the services of various Government experts in agriculture and farming matters are placed at the disposal of this station.

By this means much valuable information is disseminated amongst the farming communities.

GREATER BRISBANE.

Perhaps the most important development in the civic progress of Queensland was marked by the passage of "The City of Brisbane Act" in 1924. Before this time there were many conflicting authorities operating in the metropolitan zone, including two City Councils, six Town Councils, twelve Shire Councils and numerous other Local Authorities controlled by no less than 205 Aldermen. The Greater Brisbane Scheme containing 20 Wards has absorbed all these authorities in one Central municipal system of Government and a Lord Mayor and 19 Aldermen now comprise the Greater Brisbane Council. The Lord Mayor's salary is £750 per annum and each Alderman is entitled to draw £300 a year. The powers of the Council are practically unlimited.

The City of Brisbane covers 385 square miles, with a population of 334,000. There are 4,215 acres of park land, 56½ route miles of tramways, comprising 99 miles of single line, and 107 State Schools attended by over 42,000 children. There are 1,865 miles of road, of which 200 miles are bitumen surfaced, seven miles of concrete and 680 metalled or gravelled.

The new City Hall, which cost approximately one million sterling, with a tower 287 ft. high containing a clock with Westminster Chimes, is the finest City Hall in the Commonwealth.

MAP OF QUEENSLAND

Showing all Railways open for Traffic, Under Construction, and Approved by Parliament

PREPARED FOR THE
COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS,
BRISBANE.

1932.

RAILWAY STATISTICS, MAY, 1932.

Government Lines open for Traffic	Miles 6,469
Uniform Gauge	49
Under Construction	180
Authorised by Parliament	1,330
Passengers Carried, 1930-1931	21,953,076
Season Tickets Issued	341,312

PRIVATE AND MUNICIPAL LINES.

316,616 Miles. 103 Miles. 211 and 124. Five Lines. 169 Miles. Exclusive of Sugar Cane Lines.	
Capital Expenditure	£62,709,876
Gross Earnings, 1930-1931	£6,412,211
Working Expenses	£4,993,318
Net Revenue	£1,418,893
Giving a percentage of Net Revenue to Councils on agreed basis of £2.50 per cent. for year ended 31st June, 1931.	
Train miles run 1930-1931	10,816,812

J. W. DAVIDSON,
Commissioner for Railways.

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1930.

SUGAR PRODUCTION	
Acres under Cultivation	296,070 acres
Canehead	233,014 acres
Tons of Cane Crushed	3,328,000 tons
Average, 15.90 tons of cane and 239 tons sugar per acre crushed	
Sugar Manufactured	310,783 tons
Sugar Mills and Refineries, 37	
Value of Promises and Machinery (1929-30)	£7,730,026
Estimated Total Value of Agricultural Crops 1931	£12,321,505

Year ended 31st December, 1931.

Gold Output	13,247 fine oz.
Value	£55,545
Silver	1,088,478 oz.
Value	£79,652
Copper	3,136 tons
Value	£126,342
Tin	470 tons
Value	£35,744
Coal	841,308 tons
Value	£669,920
Other	£271,718
Total	£1,565,225

Year ended 31st December, 1930.

State and Provisional Schools, 1928.	
Net Enrolment	137,750
Teachers—Male	2,070
Female	2,340
Total	4,410

REFERENCE:
Railway Lines Open for Traffic ———
Under Construction - - - - -
Approved by Parliament = = = = =
Private Lines ———

LATEST STATISTICS OF THE STATE

For Year ended December, 1930.

Area	670,500 sq. miles or 229,420,000 acres
Area Allocated	18,781,255
In Process of Disposal	6,800,967
Under Grazing and Homestead Selection	75,961,375
Occupation Licenses	21,108,550
Area of Runs	200,716,900

LIVE STOCK—1st Jan., 1931—

Cattle	5,439,724
Sheep	22,542,943
Horses	481,615
Swine	217,328

In 1930 1,467,768 Sheep and 634,488 Cattle were slaughtered, of which 355,713 Sheep and 327,580 Cattle were for Hecing, Freezing, and Boiling down. The balance—1,142,055 Sheep and 306,908 Cattle—were for Home Consumption.

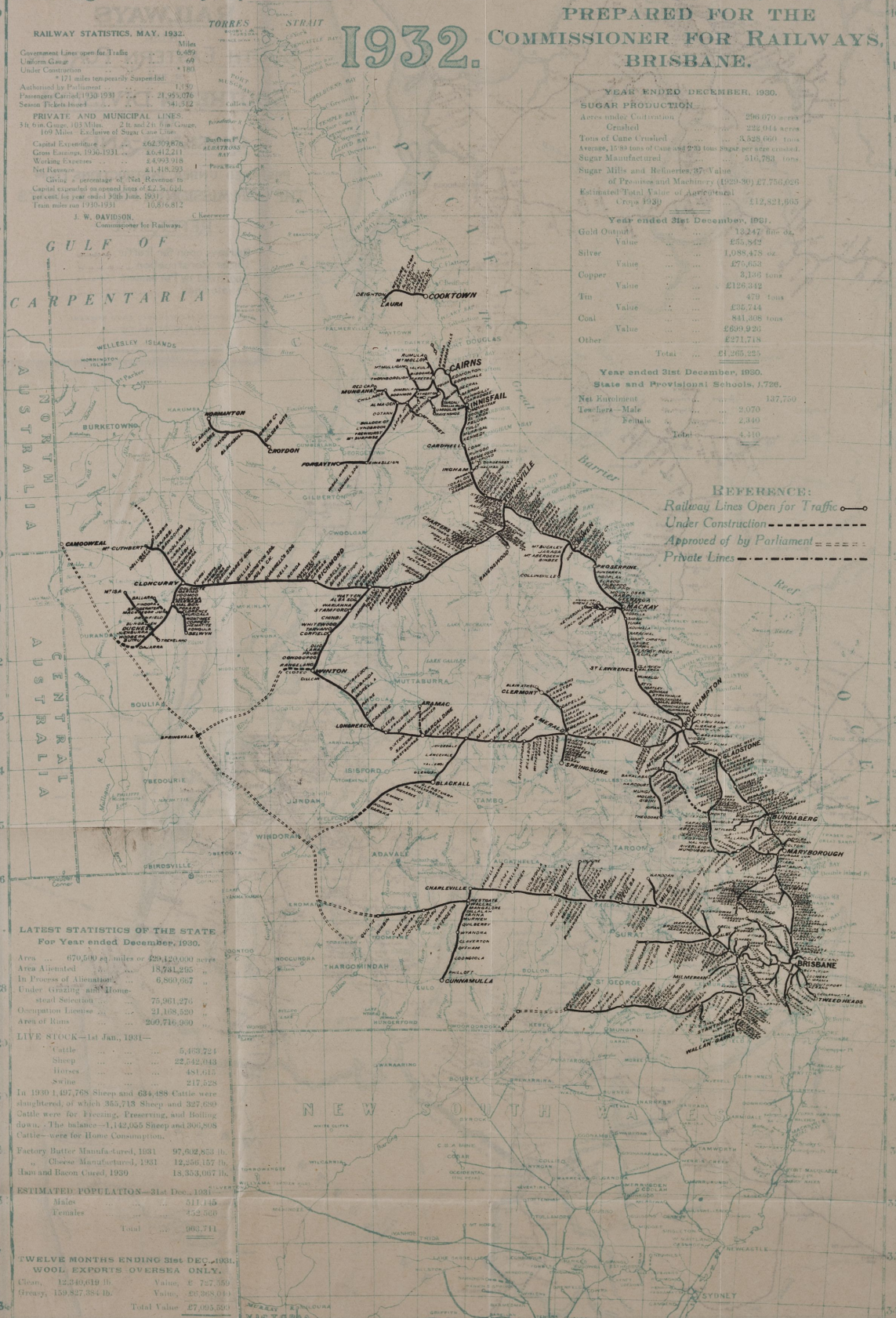
Factory Butter Manufactured, 1931	97,602,853 lb.
Cheese Manufactured, 1931	12,256,157 lb.
Bacon and Bacon Cured, 1930	18,353,007 lb.

ESTIMATED POPULATION—31st Dec., 1931—

Males	311,145
Females	345,560
Total	656,711

TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31st DEC., 1931.

WOOL EXPORTS OVERSEA ONLY.	
Clean	12,340,619 lb. Value £ 727,550
Greasy	139,827,884 lb. Value £9,068,011
Total	152,168,503 lb. Value £9,795,561





MAP

SHOWING

RAILWAYS

IN THE

SOUTH EASTERN PORTION

OF THE

SOUTHERN DIVISION

OF

QUEENSLAND

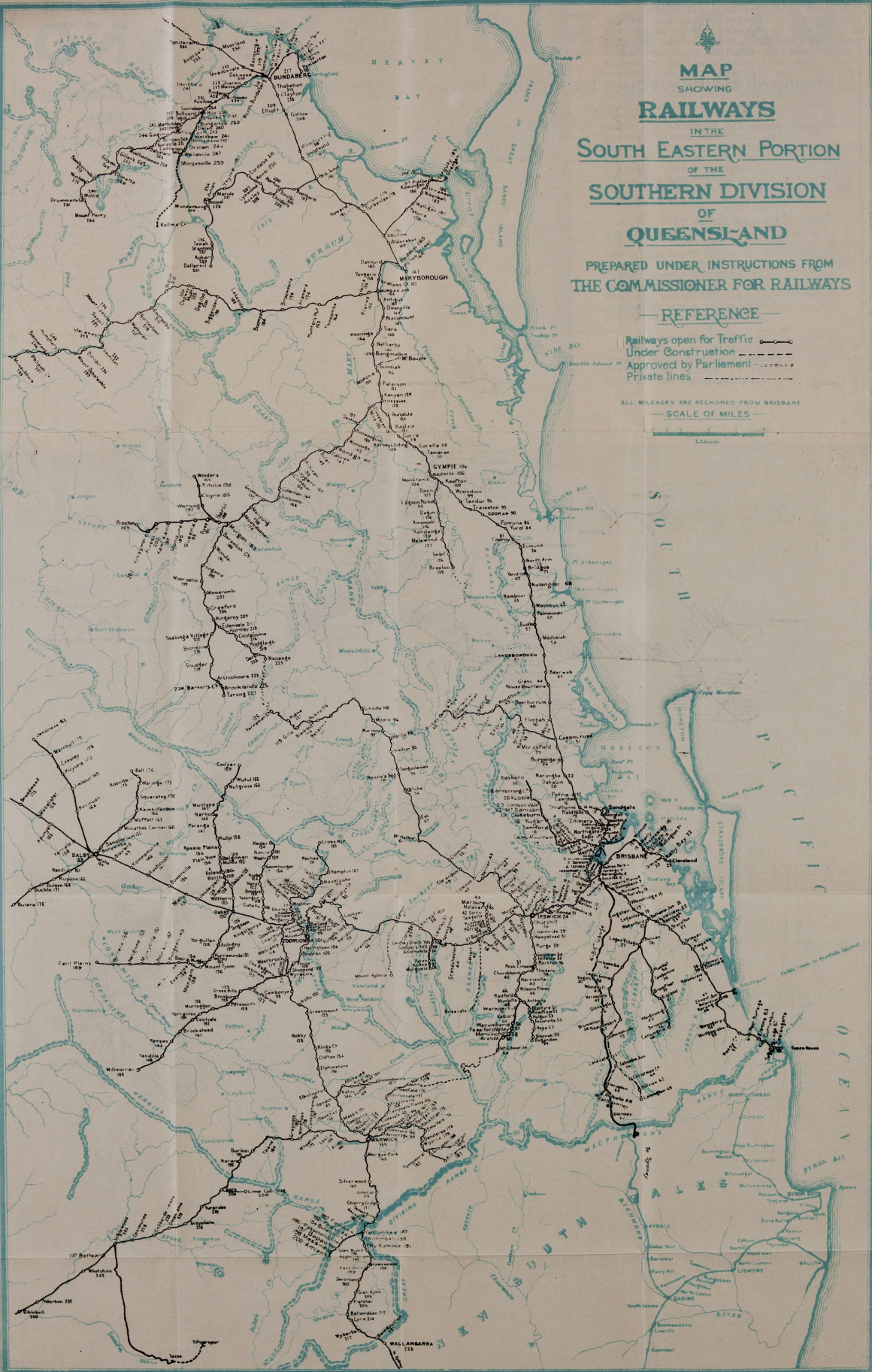
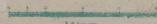
PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM
THE COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS

REFERENCE

Railways open for Traffic ———
Under Construction - - - - -
Approved by Parliament - - - - -
Private lines - - - - -

ALL MILEAGES ARE RECKONED FROM BRISBANE

SCALE OF MILES



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